

LONDON

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A FUTURE WHERE CARS DRIVE THEMSELVES

OR SHOULD WE SAY THE NEAR FUTURE? GOOGLE PLANS TO BUILD A SELF-DRIVING CAR

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Play it again, Sam!

Hyde Park biz association unveils city's first community piano

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Don't make like a tree and leave

London's urban forest strategy aims to keep the Forest City leafy

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Friday's Jackpot

\$23 MILLION

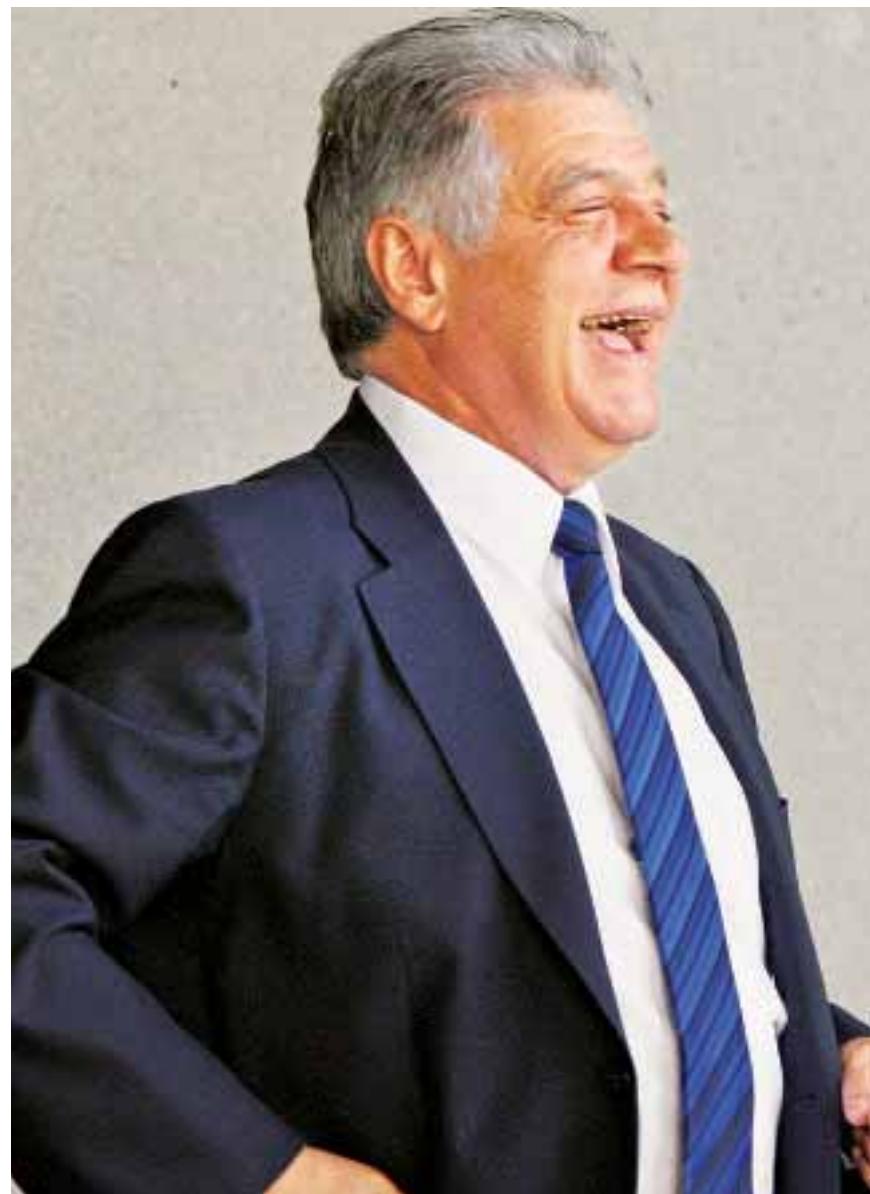
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NEWS WORTH SHARING.

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Mayor Joe Fontana was his usual upbeat self outside the London courthouse on Wednesday after testifying at his criminal trial. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mayor admits to 'stupid' mistake at criminal trial

Testimony. Defence claims mayor had no criminal intent in altering expense claim



SCOTT TAYLOR

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Of the many thousands of words spoken during the criminal trial of London Mayor Joe Fontana, the final ones may have been the most prophetic.

After testimony ended Wednesday, Superior Court Justice Bruce Thomas told both sides to be prepared to focus their final submissions on only one of the three charges Fontana is facing.

Fontana is charged with fraud under \$5,000, breach of trust by a public official and uttering forged documents in connection with a \$1,700 cheque from Public Works Canada.

The Crown alleges he intended to pocket the money to make up for a deposit he paid on his son's June 2005 wedding reception at the Marconi Club. Fontana was a Liberal MP and cabinet minister at the time.

However, Thomas said Wednesday, if he accepts the defence theory that Fontana made a "stupid" mistake and had no criminal intent, both sides should be prepared to argue whether Fontana forged a document.

Defence witnesses corroborated Fontana's story to a tee Wednesday afternoon.

Former Liberal London Fanshawe riding association president Beth Cormier testified that a room in the Marconi Club had "definitely" been booked for then-finance minister Ralph Goodale on Feb. 25, 2005.

She was certain because Goodale had just unveiled the federal budget and it was a "coup" for London to host him.

Later, former Marconi Club president Vince Trovato told court that a room had been booked for Goodale on that date for \$1,700.

That testimony was crucial for Fontana, who submitted an expense claim to the House of Commons for that amount on that date.

The fact that he did so on an invoice for his son's June 2005 wedding reception at the club that he'd heavily altered and labelled as original was "stupid," Fontana said as

he testified, but not criminal.

The RCMP charged Fontana because they believe he was trying to skim \$1,700 off the public purse for himself.

When Fontana testified in his own defence, assistant Crown attorney Tim Zuber accused him of trying to fool Ottawa bureaucrats into paying him the money with the carefully reconstructed form.

"You knew what you were doing was wrong, right?" Zuber asked.

Fontana replied he was simply creating a new document out of one that already existed.

"You knew at the time it was a criminal act," Zuber continued.

"No, I was creating a new document," the mayor said.

"So when you write 'original' on that document, that's a bold-faced lie," Zuber said.

Fontana again disagreed.

"You were going to line your pockets with \$1,700. What do you have to say to that?" Zuber asked.

"Wrong," Fontana replied.

The case will wrap up Thursday. The judge is expected to render a verdict June 6.



Eli Pasic becomes the first person to play Hyde Park's outdoor community piano. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Gift of music brings people together in Hyde Park

Community piano.
Crowd turns out to hear first notes



MIKE
DONACHIE

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London's first outdoor community piano is a "catalyst" for the community, a crowd heard as it was unveiled Wed-

nesday night.

Hyde Park Business Association is behind the idea, after seeing it in other North American communities and deciding it was just right for the Forest City.

"The idea really caught everyone's imagination and I'm overwhelmed by the support," said business association president Donna Szpakowski.

She said it will catalyze

play, conversation and a greater understanding as it brings people together with music, which she called "a universal language."

And Coun. Matt Brown was there to congratulate everyone involved, saying it could become a "gem" of "the most incredible neighbourhood" in the city.

The piano was donated by a Boler resident, who's asked not to be named, and has

been colourfully decorated by the students of Oakridge Secondary School.

It was launched with aplomb by pianist Eli Pasic, then kids from Sir Frederick Banting Secondary sang along. A crowd enjoyed the launch event, which also had music by the Golden Harps Steel Band.

It's London's first outdoor piano, but Szpakowski hopes there will be more.

Where to find it

- The community piano is at the Hyde Park stormwater management pond, at 1695 Hyde Park Rd.
- It's open to all, and will be there until the fall. It will be stored for the winter and return each year in the spring.

OPP investigate lost animal scam

The Ontario Provincial Police are investigating what's believed to be a scam preying on people who've lost pets.

Oxford County OPP were first contacted about the scheme on Monday by a woman in Ingersoll.

The woman had lost her cat and posted an ad on the classifieds site Kijiji, offering a reward if it was found and returned, police said.

A short time later, a man called the woman, saying he had the animal and wanted the reward before he turned

it over.

Police took a similar report Tuesday from a man who had posted an online ad about a missing dog in East Zorra-Tavistock.

People in Windsor and Woodstock are also believed to have had the same experiences.

Police don't believe the person contacting the pet owners actually has their animals.

"It seems that someone has caught on to how to ... do a scam," said Oxford County

OPP Const. Lisa Narancsik.

The scheme, she said, is "very similar to the ones where people will phone saying I'm your grandchild, I've been injured, send me money."

Anyone who's been contacted in a similar fashion should call police, Narancsik said. People are also reminded that posting their phone number online is a bad idea.

Email addresses are generally the best way to go, Narancsik said. METRO

Cybercrime unit. Two men slapped with luring-related charges

Two men are facing luring charges after investigations by the London police cybercrime unit.

Nicholas O'Brien, 22, was arrested Tuesday and faces charges of luring and child pornography. Police started investigating after an 11-year-old girl's parents reported inappropriate contact with their daughter on the Internet.

In a separate case, Christopher Farrow, 23, faces luring-

related charges after a nearly yearlong Internet luring investigation by London police.

Farrow was arrested Monday. Police began their investigation in August. METRO

On the web

For more local news go to metronews.ca



Stats Canada. Property value in London jumped from 2005 to 2011

The value of residential property in the London area increased nearly 43 per cent in the six years between 2005 and 2011, according to Statistics Canada.

The increase — to \$40.9 billion from \$28.6 billion — was similar to that in other parts of southwest Ontario.

Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo led the pack with a 52.5 per cent increase, bringing total value to \$47.2 billion. Windsor values showed the least growth at two per cent.

The average value of a residential property in the London area sat at \$193,400 in 2011 — about 23 per cent higher than in 2006.

But, consider the increase from 2010 to 2011 alone, and the London area looks less rosy. Values went up 3.5 per cent in the time period.

The Kitchener area, meanwhile, saw 6.7 per cent growth. Hamilton values jumped 8.6 per cent and Windsor's increased 4.8 per cent.

London area

Statistics Canada often bases its reports off what's happening in places dubbed Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs). London's CMA includes:

- Adelaide-Metcalf
- Central Elgin
- City of London
- Middlesex Centre
- Southwold
- St. Thomas
- Stratroy-Caradoc
- Thames Centre

Overall, growth in residential property values eased in 2011 compared with 2010, Statistics Canada says, but it remained well above that of the economic slowdown in 2008 and 2009.

Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec, combined, accounted for 88.7 per cent of the nation's property value growth from 2010 to 2011. **METRO**

Honor Diaries. Film screening to highlight issues facing women

The Council for Muslims Facing Tomorrow and the Freedom Party of Ontario are sponsoring a screening of the movie Honor Diaries on Thursday.

The film explores the issues facing women in the Islamic world through interviews about honour killings, genital mutilation

and forced marriage.

A panel will address cultural and political problems of the issues raised after the screening.

The event starts at 6:30 p.m. at Wolf Performance Hall at the Central Library on Dundas Street. Tickets are \$10.

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Carpe Diem. King's holds 10th annual student leadership conference

King's University College will play host to 400 secondary students from across Ontario this week for its 10th annual Carpe Diem Catholic Student Leadership Conference.

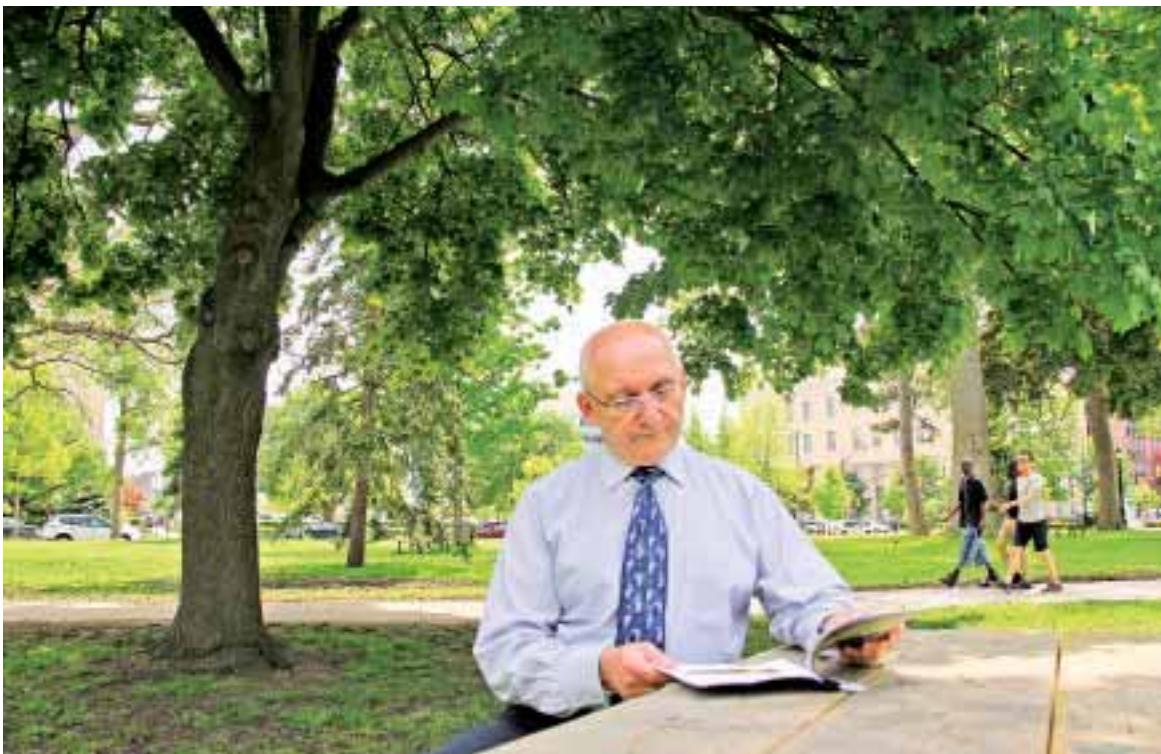
The conference runs Thursday and Friday with students learning about topics including global citizenship, sustainable food, bullying, spirituality and being a Good Samaritan.

Michael Masci, co-found-

er and motivational speaker for Positive Gear, will present the keynote address.

By the time he reached age 15, Masci was a nationally ranked debater and was president of a provincial student organization. He went on to study social work, among other things, and is now a DJ, emcee, youth minister and life coach.

The students involved in the conference are in Grade 10 to 12. **METRO**



Ivan Listar, London's chief protector of trees, chose leafy Victoria Park as the spot to unveil the city's new urban forest strategy on Wednesday.
MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Forest City to get its green back

Urban forest. Tree chief unveils strategy to increase tree cover



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London's losing its trees, but the city has a plan to stop it.

Two years in the making, the City of London Urban Forest Strategy has a clear aim: Let's still be the Forest

City in years to come.

The numbers are worrying.

Six years ago, London had 4.4 million trees, covering 24.7 per cent of the space the city takes up on the map.

That's now 22.9 per cent, largely due to the effects of the emerald ash borer but also because of development, weather and other factors. It means seven per cent less tree cover to benefit Londoners.

Now urban forestry manager Ivan Listar has his

strategy, aiming to halt that decline and turn it around, with a target of 25 per cent tree cover by 2035 and 32 per cent by 2065.

"The strategy is important because it affects all the trees in the city," Listar said. "It affects private trees and public trees too."

One of the aims of the London Plan, the city's first official development plan for 25 years, is to make London one of the greenest cities in Canada, so the urban forest strategy's a big part of that, Listar said.

Trees please

Benefits

Trees help to control temperature by creating shade, controlling stormwater runoff, cutting air pollution and increasing property values. They also have health benefits, improving mental well-being and reducing rates of illnesses linked to sun exposure, including skin cancer.

Principles

The urban forest strategy has four guiding principles: Plant more, protect more, maintain better and engage the community. It also seeks to establish the principle of "right tree, right place," taking into account sites, human activity, soil conditions and more.

Engagement

Londoners helped make the strategy, with 1,758 completing an online survey and 592 also providing written comments. "Overall, Londoners would like to see more extensive urban forest (greater canopy cover) with healthy large stature trees," the strategy says.

Call to action

- The city's urban forestry manager, Ivan Listar, wants people to read the City of London Urban Forest Strategy, at london.ca. It's in the "city hall" section under "meetings."

- People can comment on the plan during a meeting that starts at 4 p.m. Tuesday at city hall.

Next step

The success of the tree strategy in meeting its goals will depend on what council does now. It must be adopted by the mayor and councillors before it becomes city policy. Its success will also depend on where council allocates money in future city budgets.



Iman Elroubi was among the speakers at Wednesday's Learning Disability Association conference on leadership for parents.
MIKE DONACHE/METRO

Newcomers to Canada learn about learning

Education. Non-profit attempts to teach immigrant parents about Canadian school system



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If you're new to Canada, there's a lot to learn.

But newcomers who have school-age children face a particular problem: understanding the education system.

Differences between Canada and other countries' systems are a barrier for many, a London non-profit says. So, by running an event that's unique in Ontario, the London region of the Learning Disability Association has been helping immigrant parents learn about learning.

"When you are from a different culture, a different everything, it is very hard," said Iman Elroubi, who was among the speakers at the association's leadership conference for newcomer parents, which attracted more than 60 people.

After 18 months in Canada,

she's learned more than a few things. Elroubi — who, like her husband, is a doctor and is working toward passing bridging exams to practise here — is from Egypt. They have three young sons.

Elroubi was at the conference, held Wednesday at the Four Points Sheraton, to urge newcomers to get involved in schools.

"Schools here in Canada are very different," she said. "If I am not involved in the school then I don't know anything about what is going on inside."

The Egyptian system, for example, sends more work home with children, she explained.

Also speaking at the event was Xiao Xiao, who's an educator and researcher finishing a doctorate degree at Western University's faculty of education.

"There are many ways to be connected," she said. "It's like a dialogue between the parents and the school."

That dialogue can happen even if your English isn't perfect, she said. The first step is to try to get involved.

"The day is about building people's confidence but also opening their eyes to what opportunities are available at schools that they might

Advice for parents

- Iman Elroubi, a mother of three, says speaking good English is vital for newcomer parents who want to get involved in their kids' school.
- But, even as they learn about Canada, newcomers can hold on to their own culture, she said.
- If you're grounded in who you are, that will boost your confidence and your kids will pick up on that, she said.

not be aware of," said Tracy Fawdry, executive director of the Learning Disability Association, London region.

She said the conference was part of a program funded by the Ministry of Education, designed to reach out to parents.

It went beyond their usual work with parents of children with learning disabilities because a need was identified among newcomers, she said.

The aim is to produce a fact sheet for schools, to help staff and parents understand the challenges.

Tips

The team searching for the suspect have set up a dedicated email address and phone line for tips:

- tipster@police.london
- 519-660-5842

London police renew appeal for tips in abduction case

Any information, no matter how insignificant it may seem. That's the call from the London cops hunting a man who abducted two girls, ages nine and 11, then sexually assaulted one of them.

Officers thanked the public for help in the investigation on Wednesday, the day after making details about the Saturday incident public. Then, police appealed for more in-

formation to come in.

"We want the community to know that we have received some information that may assist with the investigation, and we also want to continue to receive information," said police spokesman Const. Ken Steeves.

Police said the girls were walking in the area of Adelaide Street South and Southdale Road about 7:30 p.m.

when they were enticed into a man's car.

He drove them to Springbank Park, near Storybook Gardens, then to a fast-food restaurant near Wellington and Commissioners roads, arriving at 9:50 p.m. He bought food for them before he drove them back to Adelaide and Southdale, dropping one girl off. The other was sexually assaulted, then dropped off at

about 11:40 p.m., police said.

"If you saw an Asian man with two girls in Springbank Park, that's innocent enough, but even if that's all you saw we want to hear from you," Steeves stressed.

The man is described as Asian, five-feet-eight-inches tall with a medium build and between 30 and 40 years old.

He has a thinner-shaped face and short dark hair that's

described as "spiked" on the top. On the night of the incident, he was wearing a long-sleeved white dress shirt over a white sleeveless undershirt and beige pants.

The vehicle involved was a dark, newer-model, four-door sedan, with an antenna on the back. The interior is a mixture of black and white material, police said.

MIKE DONACHE/METRO

Hudak stands by campaign numbers

Ontario election. The Liberals and several experts have poked holes in Hudak's math



ara Falls.

But first the Liberals, and then a number of experts, including Western University Ivey School of Business economist Mike Moffatt, have poked holes in Hudak's numbers, focusing in particular on the possibility that the Tories misinterpreted information from a Conference Board of Canada report they commissioned.

Despite being hammered repeatedly on the issue, Hudak was adamant that the PC figures were right.

"I simply believe that permanent tax reductions on job creators, more affordable energy is going to create jobs," he said, campaigning in Niagara Falls. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



A future Liberal-NDP team?

Ontario Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne was sporting some flashy Chucks as her campaign bus stopped in Sudbury on Wednesday. During the day, Wynne said she won't rule out teaming up with the New Democrats to form a government if the Progressive Conservatives win the most seats on June 12 but fall short of a majority. **FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Horwath open to pension reform

If the next federal government isn't willing to tackle pension reform on a national scale, Ontario New Democrats will consider moving forward with a provincial plan to help people save for retirement, party leader Andrea Horwath said Wednesday.

The Liberals' May 1 budget — which Horwath shot down, triggering the June 12 election — called for the creation

of an Ontario pension plan.

The New Democrats made no mention of a provincial pension plan in their election campaign platform, despite pitching a similar idea in 2010.

Campaigning in Toronto, Horwath said she wants to wait and see if next year's federal election will bring in a government willing to improve the Canada Pension

Plan, something Prime Minister Stephen Harper has rejected repeatedly.

"If (the 2015 federal election) doesn't give us a prime minister that's prepared to put that issue on the national agenda, then certainly we're prepared to look at that from a provincial perspective."

Harper and his cabinet ministers have said the proposed Ontario Retirement

Pension Plan — a showpiece of the Liberals' re-election platform — would hurt the economy because workers and employers would be forced to contribute to the plan.

The Liberals say the provincial pension would be mandatory for people who do not currently have a workplace pension plan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Sen. Romeo Dallaire resigning to focus on humanitarian causes

'An extraordinary Canadian.' Former UN commander in Rwanda will serve last day in the upper chamber on June 17

Liberal Sen. Romeo Dallaire, a career soldier best known in Canada as the former commander of the UN's ill-fated peacekeeping mission in Rwanda, is resigning — not retiring, he insists — from the upper chamber.

Dallaire's last day in the Senate will be June 17, after which he intends to focus attention on a growing portfolio of international humanitarian work, the square-jawed senator told a news conference Wednesday.

The decision has nothing to do with either the shadow of scandal that has loomed over

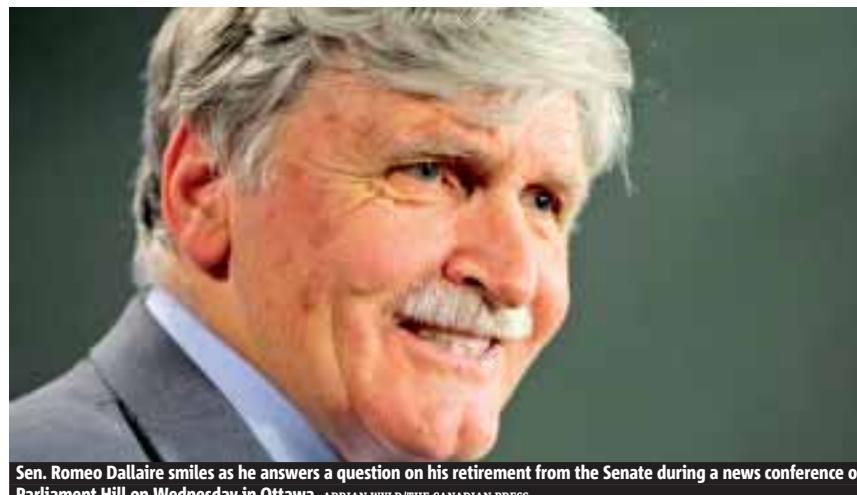
the Senate for more than a year, or with the Rwandan-born post-traumatic stress disorder that has haunted him for 20 years, he said.

Rather, the 68-year-old Dallaire said he felt there simply wasn't enough time in his schedule to be a senator while also pursuing causes close to his heart that are related to defence and human rights in the international arena.

"I have an awful lot of work ahead of me, and it was important for me to leave at this point."

Dallaire said resigning has left him with a "torn heart" because his nine years in the Senate allowed him to champion issues including veterans and their families, a strong military to help ensure global peace, anti-terrorism, aboriginal rights and better intelligence oversight.

"I think it was a very useful instrument for me to advance



Sen. Romeo Dallaire smiles as he answers a question on his retirement from the Senate during a news conference on Parliament Hill on Wednesday in Ottawa. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

things I believe in," he said.

While Dallaire's news came as a surprise, it was quickly followed by glowing praise from all political quarters.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper thanked the senator via Twitter for his service, Conservative Sen. Hugh Segal said he was "devastated" to hear of

his colleague's decision, calling it "a huge loss," and NDP Leader Tom Mulcair called Dallaire "an extraordinary Canadian."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Intelligence

Sen. Dallaire says trust committee with secrets

Sen. Romeo Dallaire says a fear of sensitive leaks is not a good reason to scrap the idea of a full-fledged national security committee of parliamentarians.

Dallaire said Wednesday that an all-party committee could be trusted to safeguard intelligence secrets.

Some MPs and senators say they cannot hold intelligence services fully to account because they lack clearance to see secret information.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Sorry, that's not how you become a polar bear

Talk about an uncomfortable spot for a snooze. A black bear north of Shellbrook, Sask., decided to take a power nap atop a power pole last Friday after he escaped a pair of dogs. According to a SaskPower spokesperson, customer Tyler Hopson alerted the company to the animal, and crews were then dispatched to check out the bedtime bear. "It's kind of an unusual thing," the spokesman said. "He did manage to get down from the pole safely, and is not injured as far as we know and didn't do any damage to the pole or cause any sort of power outage." COURTESY SASKPOWER

Manitoba

Lodge owner sorry for brochure that says not to give alcohol to natives

The owner of a Manitoba fishing lodge apologized Wednesday for comments in his visitors guide that said

aboriginals cannot handle alcohol.

"It was a total mistake and should not have been in there. It's an old trip planning guide that I've used for like 15 years and I had no idea that that was even in there," Brent Fleck of Laurie River Lodge said.

"I've issued an apology to the chief down in Pukata-

wagan and to the natives that work for me and ... it's certainly not our opinion and not something that we want to forward in any way shape or form."

The lodge's Facebook page was filled with angry comments over a section of the brochure that warns guests not to give alcohol to aboriginal guides. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Maya Angelou in 2005
REED SAXON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Maya Angelou dead at 86

Maya Angelou, a modern Renaissance woman who survived the harshest of childhoods to become a force on stage, screen, the printed page and the inaugural dais, died Wednesday, her son said. She was 86.

Angelou's son, Guy B. Johnson, said the writer died at her home in Winston-Salem, N.C., where she had been a professor of American studies at Wake Forest University since 1982.

Tall and regal, with a deep, majestic voice, Angelou defied all probability and category, becoming one of the first black women to enjoy mainstream success as an author and thriving in virtually every artistic medium.

The young single mother who worked at strip clubs to earn a living later wrote and recited the most popular presidential inaugural poem in history.

The childhood victim of rape wrote a million-selling memoir, befriended Malcolm X, Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King, and performed on stages around the world.

An actress, singer and dancer in the 1950s and 1960s, she broke through as an author in 1970 with *I Know Why the*

if not a critical favourite. For President George W. Bush, she read another poem, *Amazing Grace*, at the 2005 Christmas tree-lighting ceremony at the White House.

She was a mentor to Oprah Winfrey, whom she befriended when Winfrey was still a local television reporter, and often appeared on her friend's talk show.

She mastered several languages and published not just poetry, but advice books, cookbooks and children's stories. She wrote music, plays and screenplays, received an Emmy nomination for her acting in the 1977 miniseries *Roots*, and never lost her passion for dance, the art she considered closest to poetry.

Her very name as an adult was a reinvention. Angelou was born Marguerite Johnson in St. Louis and raised in Stamps, Ark., and San Francisco, moving back and forth between her parents and her grandmother.

At age nine, she was writing poetry. By 17, she was a single mother. In her early 20s, she danced at a strip joint, ran a brothel, was married and then divorced. By her mid-20s, she was performing in San Francisco.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Cancer survivor Caitlin Jones was an avid indoor tanner until she discovered at age 23 that a spot on her forehead was basal cell carcinoma. CHRIS YOUNG/CANADIAN PRESS

The potential dark cloud to skin exposure

Skin cancer.

Though the incidences of some cancers are declining, melanoma cases are on the rise

Ian Anderson is one of the 2.5 per cent.

After his first diagnosis of melanoma, the Brampton, Ont., man was told that without immediate treatment he would be dead within two months. After his second, he was informed that if 100 people were in his shoes, 97.5 would not make it to the five-year mark, the standard measuring stick for beating a cancer.

Nineteen years after the second occurrence, Anderson, now 56, is still around to tell the tale — in his ever-present hat and sunscreen, which he slathers on religiously.

"I'm living proof that it can happen," says Anderson, who now counsels people diagnosed with melanoma.

Anderson's story is one of optimism — but also of reality. While he's living proof some lucky people can survive Stage 4 melanoma, he is also confirmation that people who don't take sun precautions can develop the more-often deadly disease.

Another survivor, Caitlin Jones, was an avid indoor tanner — until she discovered at age 23 that a spot on her

By the numbers

Some estimates about cancer in Canada this year:

- **6,500.** Number of new melanoma cases. Of those, 1,050 Canadians will die from this form of cancer.
- **191,300.** Number of new overall cancer diagnoses. Of those, 76,600 Canadians will die from some sort of cancer.

forehead just below her hair line was basal cell carcinoma, which comprises about four out of five non-melanoma skin cancers.

Jones had surgery to remove a quarter-sized piece of skin to excise the cancer — a procedure that altered her view on tanning. She notes that around the same time some of her friends' parents were also dealing with skin cancers.

The Canadian Cancer Society worries that more people will hear the kinds of frightening diagnoses Anderson and Jones did in the future. That's because skin cancers — particularly the most deadly kind, melanoma — are the most common kinds of cancers in Canada. And whereas the incidences of some cancers are actually going down, melanoma cases are on the rise, in both women and men.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lower IQ in children linked to common household chemicals

Researchers in B.C. say lower IQ and greater hyperactivity in young children appears to be significantly linked to a woman's exposure to flame retardants during early pregnancy.

The Simon Fraser University study found there's an association between women

being exposed to a 10-fold increase of certain chemicals when their baby's brain is developing and a 4.5-point drop in the standard measure of intelligence.

The chemicals of concern are polybrominated diphenyl ethers, known as PBDEs, which have been widely used

to prevent the spread of fire in furniture, carpet padding and car seats.

Researcher and health sciences Prof. Bruce Lanphear says North Americans are likely exposed to higher amounts of PBDEs than people in other parts of the world, and it could take decades to flush

the chemicals from their environments.

The study suggests the impact of the chemicals is comparable to exposure to lead, which was once used in various products including paint and pipes in homes and offices.

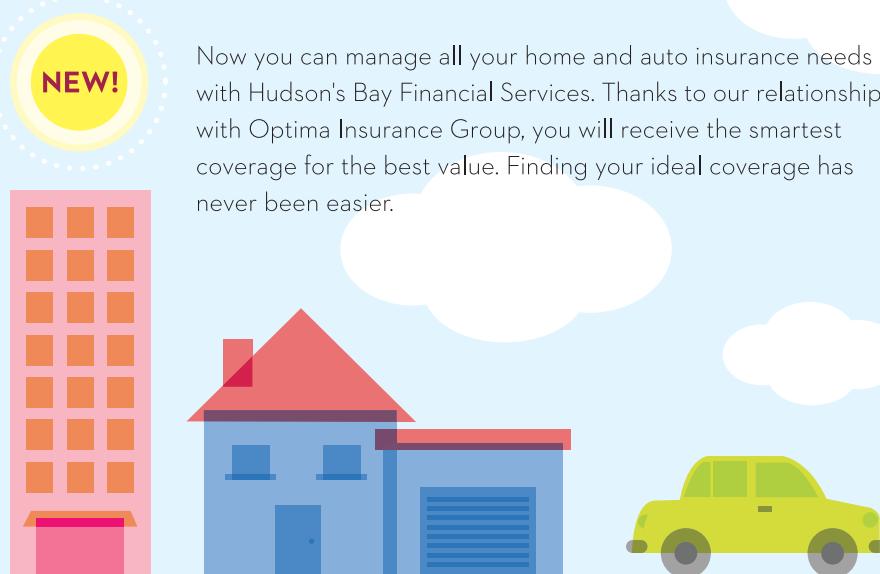
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Climate change. WWF, Greenpeace send warning to energy companies

Environmental groups have fired legal warning shots at major energy companies over their alleged role in funding climate change denial and blocking climate-friendly legislation.

Greenpeace and the World Wildlife Fund have sent letters to international and Canadian companies asking how they manage public communication on climate change.

They say spreading misinformation could leave company officers open to legal liability.

Keith Stewart of Greenpeace Canada says the letters are the first step in a long-

term campaign to use the law to prevent the energy industry from delaying action on climate change.

He says the strategy was inspired by the ultimately successful campaign to make tobacco companies liable for sowing doubt about the health effects of their products.

The letter has been sent to five Canadian companies: Suncor, Talisman Energy, Husky Energy, EnCana and Canadian Natural Resources.

It has also gone out to 45 multinationals, including many with operations or subsidiaries in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reunion. Congolese kids back in the arms of their Italian adoptive parents

Thirty-one children who had been blocked for months from leaving Congo with their adoptive parents arrived in Rome on Wednesday aboard an Italian government plane for a joyful, long-delayed reunion with their new families.

The children ran excitedly into their parents' arms at Ciampino airport after an overnight flight from the western African nation. Congo suspended all international adoptions last year, citing fears some children might later have been trafficked. None of the allegations involved adoptions by Italians, and Italy's premier personally intervened in the case.

Maria Elena Boschi, an Italian government minister who accompanied the children from Congo, said "they went

crazy when, from the plane's windows, they spotted their parents" waiting on the tarmac.

The mother of two of the children, girls ages seven and nine, was ecstatic. "Happiness, happiness. I saw my two children. I kissed them and I hugged them," said Laura Manicelli.

The parents were forced to leave Congo without their children when their visas expired, after spending months there waiting for final paperwork and hoping for a policy change from the Congolese government. The children stayed behind in the care of Italian nuns.

Boschi sported a braid woven into her hair by one of the girls during the flight. She said all the children are healthy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Congolese children are welcomed by their Italian adoptive relatives as they disembark after landing from Kinshasa at Ciampino's military airport, on the outskirts of Rome, Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Sara Schulz, who is eight months pregnant and World Vision's child health policy adviser, helps to set up a striking display in downtown Toronto, Wednesday, to urge world leaders to focus on the millions of "invisible" children and women who die each year of preventable causes. WORLD VISION CANADA/THE CANADIAN PRESS

UNICEF chief says Canada delivers

Maternal health summit. UN Children's Fund head lauds courage of Nigerian schoolgirls as conference opens

Efforts to improve the health of newborns and their mothers in poor countries must also include protecting them from violence, such as the terror caused by Boko Haram in Nigeria, says the head of the UN Children's Fund.

UNICEF chief Anthony Lake offered that assessment in an interview Wednesday with The Canadian Press prior to the opening of Stephen Harper's international conference on maternal, newborn and child health.

Lake lauded the prime minister's leadership in helping children and mothers in developing countries as he heaped praise on the courage of the teenage girls kidnapped by Boko Haram in northern Nigeria.

He said he would raise his concerns about child pro-

tection in a private meeting later Wednesday with Harper's international development minister, Christian Paradis.

"Paradis is passionate about the protection issue," Lake said in a wide-ranging interview.

As for Harper, Lake said: "He has led the way on this and Canada has delivered and is delivering, again 80 per cent of its commitment at Muskoka."

Harper unveiled the Muskoka Initiative at the G8 summit Canada hosted in 2010, and it has become the government's signature development priority. Harper committed \$2.8 billion over five years to the issue in 2010, but a coalition of Canadian agencies is calling on him to up the ante to \$3.25 billion.

At a side event Wednesday at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, the government announced a \$98-million contribution to the UN World Food Program to improve nutrition, a key area that Canada's programming on kids and moms is targeting. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Threat to girls' education

Kidnapping highlights larger issue

The Boko Haram kidnapping was on the minds of many at the three-day summit on maternal and child health, which will hear from philanthropist Melinda Gates, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the Aga Khan and Queen Rania of Jordan.

UNICEF chief Anthony Lake said the Nigerian kidnapping draws attention to one of the underlying causes of the health threats faced by young mothers and girls in impoverished, war-torn countries: the importance of overcoming the threat to girls' education posed by militant groups.

"The words almost fail me about how strongly I feel about this," said Lake, who has been a senior adviser to U.S. presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton.

"These are not victims. These are people who are acting with greater courage than I think you or I could probably summon under horrendous circumstances. And we shouldn't be condescending to them by saying we are saving them. We are supporting them."

Lake suggested western donors, weary of funding one crisis after another, should adjust their view of people in developing countries who persevere in the face of dire circumstances, including natural disasters.

Lake and other high-profile guests are to address the conference in the coming days, where Harper is expected to announce more funds.

Since 1990, the deaths of mothers in childbirth and among children under age five have been cut in half, but each year, 2.9 million newborn babies die, while 2.6 million are stillborn, mostly in African countries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The robots are taking over ... the driving of cars

Stranger than science fiction. Sorry, no flying cars or transporters just yet, but Google speeds ahead with a pretty cool self-driving car prototype

Google will build a car without a steering wheel.

It doesn't need one because it drives itself.

The two-seater won't be sold publicly, but Google said Tuesday it hopes by this time next year, 100 prototypes will be on public roads. Though not driving very quickly — the top speed would be 25 miles per hour.

The cars are a natural next step for Google, which already has driven hundreds of thousands of miles in California with Lexus SUVs and Toyota Priuses outfitted with a combination of sensors and computers.

Those cars have Google-employed "safety drivers" behind the wheel in case of emergency. The new cars would eliminate the driver from the task of driving.

No steering wheel, no brake and gas pedals. Instead, buttons for go and stop.

"It reminded me of catching a chairlift by yourself, a bit of solitude I found really enjoyable," Sergey Brin, co-founder of Google, told a Southern California tech conference Tuesday evening of his first ride, according to a transcript.

The electric-powered car is compact and bubble-shaped — something that might move people around a corporate campus or congested downtown.

Google is unlikely to go deeply into auto manufacturing. In unveiling the prototype, the company emphasized partnering with other firms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Fairview Mall
Fairview Park Mall
Georgian Mall
Heritage Place
Intercity Shopping Centre
Lambton Mall
Lansdowne Place
Lime Ridge Mall

Lynden Park Mall
Mapleview Shopping Centre
Markville Shopping Centre
Masonville Place
Milton Mall
New Sudbury Centre
Northgate Shopping Centre
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Oshawa Centre
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Pickering Town Centre
The Promenade
Scarborough Town Centre
Seaway Mall
Sheppard Centre
Sheridan Centre
Square One
Station Mall
Stone Road Mall
Tecumseh Mall

Toronto Eaton Centre
Upper Canada Mall
Vaughan Mills
White Oaks Mall
Woodbine Centre
Yorkdale Mall

Yahoo killed the YouTube star? Marissa Mayer takes on her old employer

Yahoo is planning a YouTube rival. Due to launch this summer, the new video site will focus on attracting content creators through a greater potential to earn money.

According to *Ad Age*, the rival service is not only at an advanced stage of development, it had been scheduled to launch in April. However, the big reveal

is being pushed back while contractual issues are addressed.

Yahoo's CEO, Marissa Mayer, used to be an executive at Google-owned YouTube.

While YouTube is by far the biggest video-sharing site Yahoo believes that it can attract producers and creators by offering a better split of advertising revenue. **AFP**

Market Minute

DOLLAR
91.95¢ (-0.12¢)

TSX
14,610.96 (-47.06)

OIL
\$102.72 US (-\$1.39)

GOLD
\$1,259.30 US (-\$6.20)

Natural gas: \$4.60 US (+\$0.10)
Dow Jones: 16,633.18 (-42.32)

Valeant Pharmaceuticals

Quebec company ups its bid price for Botox maker

Valeant Pharmaceuticals increased its hostile offer to buy Botox-maker Allergan on Wednesday and threatened to bypass the board by taking it directly to shareholders.

However, analysts suggested Valeant may have to raise its offer again.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD ...?

Is the world getting better or worse?

It's a question that's been debated for decades by a diverse array of middle-aged white men with post-secondary educations. Happy that my people are getting a voice, I've given the issue a lot of thought myself.

I'm torn. On one hand, the world sucks; on the other, it sucks to a lesser magnitude than any time since the Space Odyssey monolith taught us how to brain our fellow monkeys.

The world feels like it's getting worse, but that's just human nature. It's the same phenomenon that allows us to believe that every generation but our own is the one destroying the Earth.

When we were young, we convinced ourselves that our generation was the most hard-done-by ever, which is why the peace and prosperity of the early 1990s still managed to produce teens sulking to Nirvana and Smashing Pumpkins. Then we got older and convinced ourselves that young people were out of control. I'm reaching the age where friends talk about "the teens on the bus" or "the



HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

kids at the mall" as if they are a consolidated trade union with the united goal of making life miserable for normal people. Whether we blame the selfish baby boomers or the irresponsible youth, everyone thinks the world is spinning out of control. But what is the reality?

Here are some of the key arguments when weighing Louis Armstrong's "What a wonderful world" against the Wicked Witch's "Oh what a world!"

Pro: The world is getting better

* The intertwined world economy means it's rare for two countries with McDonald's to go to war, most likely because people are too wined to lift their weapons and too big to wedge themselves into their tank holes.

* Thanks to the miracle of the Internet, literally anyone with a minor rash can spend a few minutes online and confidently diagnose themselves with cancer.

* Game of Thrones is so awesome right now.

* Previously intractable problems such as extreme poverty

can now be solved with a clever hashtag.

* The world is united as never before thanks to its shared hatred of Kim and Kanye.

Con: The world is getting worse

* While countries with McDonald's rarely fight each other, hundreds of thousands have died in the Denny's Wars.

* "Statisticians" will try to tell you that life expectancy is getting higher, but did you know that every single person on Earth is closer to death today than they were yesterday?

* YouTube comments.

* The government knows everything about me, including my PIN, my taste for online rap battles, and that when I'm in a rush I use Head & Shoulders as impromptu bodywash, despite the anatomical limitations implicit in its name.

* Genetically modified strawberries are watery and flavourless.

That's five arguments for and five against, so you can see why I haven't yet reached a conclusion about the fate of the world. My gut feeling is that the world is better than it's ever been, but that climate change is a sizable wild card that could drastically increase violent weather, destroy the world's agriculture and sink entire cities. Darn kids.

ZOOM

Made of spur parts



Black Hawk is a scrap-iron sculpture of a life-size plow horse pulling a single bottom plow, made by 43-year-old artist John Lopez, based in Lemmon, S.D. JOHN LOPEZ/REX FEATURES

South Dakota, USA

Artist's viewpoint

Favorite weld-work

Artist turns metal into animals

The heavy beasts look like they're up for a scrap — scrap metal, that is. These sculptures are the work of artist John Lopez, who welds the pieces from abandoned farm machinery. Based in Lemmon, S.D., the 43-year-old has created full-size replicas of animals such as a horse, buffalo and even a triceratops dinosaur. **MWN**

"I moved to my uncle's ranch to make a family cemetery. But after finishing a perimeter fence I ran out of material and, being 35 miles from the nearest town, had to search for usable scrap iron on site. It led on to working with the metal as art material."

John Lopez, scrap-metal artist

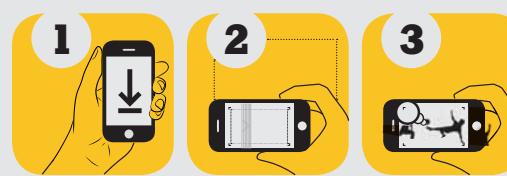
'The plough horse is a part of our past'

Out of all the critters welded, the scrap-iron plow horse named Black Hawk is Lopez's most prized creation. "The plow horse is a symbol worldwide that we all understand to be a part of our past and history. We depended on them so much before modern machinery was invented," the artist says. "I think Black Hawk is the one I am most proud of." **MWN**



In this issue, you can find AR enhancements on page 12 in Scene and page 18 in Sports

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MetroTube

... They're happy tears



ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

Listen. This is a crucial warning.

This video of Mr. G, a very sad and lonely goat being reunited with his best pal, Jellybean the burro, is a festival of tears. Not lock-yourself-indoors-with-Enya-songs-and-a-tub-of-ice-cream tears, mind you. More the redemptive kind.

So as long as you're OK with being a little tear-streaked — or at least misty — in public, then by all means, go right ahead.

One last warning: Mute the sound if you don't like terrible music. (AnimalPlace/YouTube)



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How to elicit Piercing laughter



Pierce Brosnan and Emma Thompson star in *The Love Punch*, which is in theatres now. CONTRIBUTED

The Love Punch.

Brosnan has no problem laughing at his age or past roles



NED EHRBAR

Metro World News in Hollywood

such a gifted lady — beautiful, gifted, kind, gracious, affable. If she was here I wouldn't get a word in edgewise. She is just wildly entertaining.

Quoted

"I certainly got the jokes within the jokes — dressing up in a wetsuit, scaling a rubber mountain, stealing a diamond. Of course, if not now, when?"

Pierce Brosnan on comedic nods to his prior role as James Bond

Pierce Brosnan isn't afraid to poke fun at himself or his age — or his time playing James Bond and Thomas Crown — in the pursuit of a good laugh. Plus, going for those laughs opposite Emma Thompson doesn't hurt. Brosnan and Thompson play bickering exes in writer-director Joel Hopkins' *The Love Punch*, about a regular couple who get carried away with a jewel heist as revenge against the callous French banker who tanked their retirement fund.

It's hard to believe this is the first time you've teamed up with Emma Thompson. How was it working with her?

Oh, it was out-of-the-box great. Such a memorable summer it was. We hit the ground running Day One, scene one, like we'd been working together forever. We'd wanted to work with each other for many years. There's just a real fondness for each other, and from my point of view she's just

This film sneaks in some fun nods to your time as James Bond and other previous work.

I certainly got the jokes within the jokes — dressing up in a wetsuit, scaling a rubber mountain, stealing a diamond. Of course. If not now, when? Joel and I had talked often about this kind of humour and this kind of film. So all of the ingredients were just ripe for the doing.

It is odd, though, to see Timothy Spall in a wetsuit.

It's quite a sight to behold. They gave him the wrong size wetsuit. They had to slit it up the back — you can actually see it in the film if you freeze it. Poor Timothy, he was miserable. And they gave him a three-ply, and it was a summer's day. It was so hot.

The locations did seem fairly pleasant.

Bliss, utter joy. It started in the South of France at the Carlton Hotel. I woke up, it was a gorgeous morning, I fed the seagulls that came to my little balcony suite that I had at the top of the hotel. I went down and we all met each other and ... wetsuits.

How do you get the right tone for a screwball comedy like this?

It has to start with sincerity and honesty and a good story. It has to be founded within the truthfulness of character and storytelling so that you can then go off the rails but always come back to it. And in this case, this man is middle-aged, divorced, playing the field with women that are too young for him — that man-boy type mentality. There was a good, strong foundation in that. So for me it was always that, and then ... wetsuits.



Miley Cyrus ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Miley to Billy Ray: A reality show wouldn't be the Best of Both Worlds

Oh, how the tables have turned. While Miley Cyrus got her start in entertainment thanks to the guidance of dad Billy Ray Cyrus, it now looks like she's advising him on his career decisions. "Billy Ray has turned down what must be his sixth reality show offer in the last four years because Miley has been very strict with her parents about not doing them, even though they have been offered a fortune by all the big players, including Bravo, Lifetime and

E!, to open up their home to cameras," a source tells Radar Online. "Miley would much rather do a Christmas special or a concert at the Hollywood Bowl with her dad rather than watch him embarrass himself like Bruce Jenner on TV every week." Apparently the offers were getting lucrative enough to be very, very tempting, the source says. "But ultimately she was very thankful they came to an understanding that it would be a bad idea."

Charlize Theron loving the single life at 38 years old

Charlize Theron has never been married and she couldn't be happier about it. "I'm sure some people would be like, 'I would never want to have that life.' I'm sure there's a lot of aspects to my life that a lot of people wouldn't want. Like the fact that I'm single at 38. That's not necessarily what a lot of women want," she tells Esquire UK. "But I'm just saying, a life is good if it's the life that you want. I am living my life in a way that if tomorrow it ended — and I hope not, because I



have a kid — but if it did, this was the life that I really wanted to live. But I work at that, you know?"

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Uh oh! Video surfaces of 1D's Zayn and Louis smoking pot

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Ah, a squeaky clean pop group's first big scandal. Someone put this in the photo album: Video surfaced this week of One Direction stars Louis Tomlinson and Zayn Malik smoking a joint in a van.

The Daily Mail has the full video. Louis, who's also the cameraman, says that the group are on their way out of Peru. Marijuana is not particularly legal in Peru, although possession of under eight ounces is decriminalized, and Louis makes clear that he knows what they're doing is not

exactly kosher. While filming their police motorcycle escort, Louis jokes, "He's having a look. He's thinking, 'I'm sure I can smell an illegal substance in there,' and he's hit the nail on the head."

Zayn, on the other hand, is a less chatty stoner. He doesn't say much, just smokes, and beams, and chants "Mary J. Blige" in falsetto.

So world, are we going to be shocked by this? I know it's illegal and all, but at this point it's barely illegal most places. I think I'd be more shocked if two teenish dudes weren't smoking pot than if they were. Plus, they just seem so very proud to be Big Boys Doing Drugs that it's a little hard to stay mad at their cute little faces. I imagine those same faces have gotten them out of every scrape they've ever been in. OK, now I'm getting mad again.



Denise Richards

Denise Richards house-hunting after Charlie Sheen kicks her out of her home

Denise Richards and her children are apparently on the hunt for new digs after ex-husband Charlie Sheen reportedly kicked them out of the house in which they'd been living and sold it to a friend, according to the National Enquirer. Sheen initially purchased the home for Richards, but his lawyers "have been working with

Denise on vacating the premises," a source says. "Charlie has wanted Denise out of the gated community — where he also lives — for months, and his porn star fiancée, Brett Rossi, has been pushing for it, too." Sheen and Richards have been clashing lately over child support and how much time Sheen can spend with the children they share.

Twitter



@ChloeGMoretz

people have got to stop filming things if they're doing it illegally, you're just asking to get caught, better to not do it at all



@KChenoweth

Damn you kitkat candy bars !!



@lenadunham

Dear neighbors: I don't want to put a password on my wifi. I want to share it! But this is what society tells me to do and I obey.

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Spring, how I love hue so

We've got you covered this season in the brightest and boldest the rainbow has to offer, as oranges and blues tie for first place as fashion's dominant tones for the warmer weather

ELIZABETH BEDDALL
Metro World News

Orange is
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The boys
are back in
tropicals



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\$74, BANANAREPUBLIC.CA



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HM.COM/CA

Generation excellent

A very Coupland collection

Douglas Coupland and Roots have teamed up for a new capsule collection of clothes inspired by the author, artist and Canadian cultural icon. Released this week, the collection includes men's and women's tops, a scarf and a leather belt. Inspiration came from Coupland's visual work and coincides with his Vancouver Art Gallery exhibition Douglas Coupland: everywhere is anywhere and anything is everything. For more information on the collection, visit canada.roots.com.

METRO

SLOGAN SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRTS, \$42 / POP HEAD
LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT, \$58



Trends Report

If you enjoy being out in the sun, then you better be educated about sun protection. You've probably used SPF creams and sprays, but there's a new product on the market. Go online to Trends Report to learn about a U.S. company that claims it has invented the world's first drinkable sunscreen.

- **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetrolreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Photo by Irene,
Instagram



Al fresco gets into a vegan state of mind

Cookbook of the Week

For barbecues, backyards and beaches



There is something about eating outside, so it's no surprise that al fresco dining is becoming popular.

In *Vegan al fresco*, Carla Kelly prepares elegant vegan dishes for outdoor dining. The book includes prep and cooking times, advice on portability, and menu suggestions for special occasions.

Split into sections such as Sandwiches and Spreads, On the Grill, and Ready Built Salads, it includes recipes for Samosa Spring Rolls, Creamy Macaroni Salad, Chickpea Sausages, Hazelnut Latte Cupcakes and more. **METRO**

Grilled Eggplant Sandwiches

Try a filling that's just as satisfying at meat

"Simple yet full of wonderful texture and flavour, these sandwiches can be prepared ahead of time and taken with you if there are no cooking facilities at your picnic spot," writes Carla Kelly in her book *Vegan al fresco*. "However, if you can grill on location, bring the marinated eggplant in containers and put sandwiches together using eggplant strips hot off the grill."

1. In a large flat container with a resealable lid or in a large zip-close bag, combine all marinade ingredients.

2. Cut eggplant in half lengthwise, then into 16 1/4-inch (6-mm) wide strips. Place eggplant slices in bag with marinade and toss to coat. Marinate for at least 1 hour (longer is better). Turn after 30 minutes.

3. In a small bowl, combine chive butter ingredients. Cover and chill until required.

4. Preheat barbecue to high (or broiler, if using oven) and grill eggplant slices for 20 minutes, turning as required until both

sides are golden and a little caramelized. While grilling, split rolls lengthwise and lightly toast if desired.

5. Spread rolls with chive butter. Place tomato slices, greens, and red onions on 1 side of each sandwich. Top each with 4 slices of grilled eggplant.

RECIPES FROM VEGAN AL FRESCO: HAPPY & HEALTHY RECIPES FOR PICNICS, BARBECUES & OUTDOOR DINING BY CARLA KELLY (ARSENAL PULP PRESS, 2014)

Ingredients

- 1 medium eggplant, about 1 lb (500 g)

Marinade

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) white wine
- 2 tbsp white balsamic vinegar or vegetable stock
- 2 tsp toasted cumin seeds
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 1/2 tsp dried tarragon
- 1/4–1/2 tsp chili flakes
- salt and ground black pepper, to taste

Chive Butter

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) finely chopped fresh chives
- 2 tbsp finely chopped shallots
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) vegan margarine

To Assemble

- 4 long baguette-style rolls
- 2 fresh ripe tomatoes, sliced
- 2 cups baby spinach



This recipe serves four. TRACEY KUSIEWICZ/FOODIE PHOTOGRAPHY

Mojito-Inspired Tofu

1. In a large flat container with a resealable lid or in a large zip-close bag, combine juice, rum, mint, agave, oil, garlic, lime zest, and salt. Add tofu and marinate in refrigerator for at least 1 hour, turning after 30 minutes.

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) + 2 tbsp fresh lime juice
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) light rum
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) finely chopped fresh mint
- 1 1/2 tbsp agave
- 1 tbsp canola oil

2. Preheat barbecue to medium heat. Lay down a sheet of aluminum foil lightly brushed with oil. Grill for 3–4 minutes each side until golden, basting frequently with leftover marinade.

- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tsp lime zest
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 lb (500 g) extra-firm regular tofu (water-packed), drained and pressed, sliced widthwise into 12 rectangles

For your phone

Seafood Watch (iPhone/iPad/Android; free)

 **MIND THE APP**
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca



Before you order, make sure the restaurant is serving ocean-friendly fish or sushi. This often-updated guide from the Monterey Bay Aquarium lists the status and farming practices for popular species.



This recipe serves four people. TRACEY KUSIEWICZ/FOODIE PHOTOGRAPHY

Outdoor rugs more stylish than ever

The outdoor floor.

Weave a summer spell with colourful runners and natural grass rugs



DESIGN
CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

An outdoor rug can offer more than just comfort underfoot. It can also lighten, brighten and freshen up a dull outdoor space. Fashioned after indoor styles, an outdoor rug can help make your adjoining outdoor space's decor reflect your indoor style — a great way to extend the feeling of your home during warm weather months.

Size: Choose a size of rug that helps to define a sitting area. As in choosing an area rug for the inside of your home, make sure the front legs of your patio furnishings sit on the rug. This will create the perimeter of your outdoor



Juice up the patio with a shot of orange for the summer months. Miami Lattice Outdoor Rug, 5 x 8 ft., \$69, UrbanBarn.com. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

room no matter how large your outdoor space.

Shape: On a small or squared-shaped deck, consider using a round rug to add a soft line

to the outdoor seating space. Consider runner-length carpets for long skinny balconies or a series of square rugs to help define various small areas on the balcony.

Colour: A fashionably coloured rug will help to add personality and create a focal point in a space without a view or other focus.

Neutral and less colourful rugs are perfect to tie a seating plan together without taking away from colourful furnishings.

Materials: Most outdoor rugs are made of synthetic fibres like olefin or polyester and plastic. There are also natural grass weave rugs. These are most suited for covered areas such as balconies or porches.

Although made for outdoors, never dismiss the idea of using an outdoor rug inside your home if you need a durable and affordable carpet. Children's rooms, arts and crafts areas and busy entryways are just a few areas that would fare well with an attractive yet durable carpet.

If planning a special dinner party outside, why not bring your inside rug out and use it for the night? Remembering to bring it inside at the end of the party is most likely the hardest part.

Floor 'em with groovy Union Jack design



Keep calm and confuse your house guests about where they are. Fun and bold Union Jack Outdoor Jockey Red 96 x 120 in. rug, \$471, HomeDepot.ca.

Try the round carpet treatment

Add some curve to a boxy-looking patio. Courtyard 6 ft. 7 in. round rug, Natural Terra, \$222, eCarpetGallery.com.



Water ionizer greener solution for pond lovers

DIY. Eco-friendly solution keeps pond life sparkling clean

Nothing adds a perfect touch of summer to a patio or garden quite like the soothing look and sound of a backyard pond. But as most pond owners know, it's a season-long struggle to keep the water looking clean and sparkling, instead of cloudy and sickly. The easy, non-chemical solution to pond preservation is a water ionizer, which uses natural minerals to keep a water scene clean, green, and perfect for pet fish.

How to install

The eco-friendly apparatus is a small but worthwhile investment. It comes together with a few easy-to-install parts: A flow chamber, a copper probe, and a control panel. The flow chamber will be connected to the pond's water circulation pump and the copper probe in order to create a low-voltage electrical current. The current creates copper ions, which are then dispersed throughout the pond.



Make your koi jump for joy: Use a water ionizer to maintain naturally healthy backyard aquaculture. ISTOCK

More backyard solutions

For more backyard solutions, tune in to *Yard Crashers*, Wednesdays at 10 p.m. ET/PT on DIY Network Canada.

done by testing the pH level in the pond (it should be between 7.2 and 7.6). Small, occasional use of household cleaners such as bleach may also be used to speed up the effects of the water ionizer without harming wildlife. Chlorine is not recommended, since it may stain the lining of the pond.

Creating a balance

While the water ionizer prevents the build-up of algae, using it too aggressively may kill the good bacteria, which are essential for the plants and animals in the pond. Making sure that the right amount of copper ions are being deposited can be

Litmus test

7.2-7.6

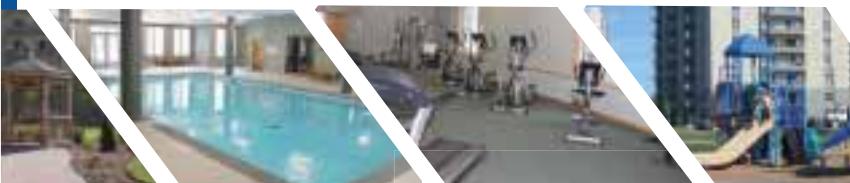
The ideal pH level for a pond.

Keep it clean

The copper probes for the water ionizer should also be checked on a monthly basis to make sure that they're clean and working properly. Depending on how big or crowded the pond is, they may have to be replaced part-way through the season. Remember that regular maintenance is still very important. Be sure to keep the pump and filter clean, and occasionally vacuum the floor of the pond in order to keep it glistening and healthy.

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Aaron Hernandez

Spilled drink led to 2012 murders: Prosecutors

Prosecutors say former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez gunned down two men in their car in 2012 after one of them accidentally bumped into him at a Boston nightclub, spilling a drink.

Hernandez pleaded not guilty in Suffolk Superior Court Wednesday afternoon in the shooting deaths of Daniel de Abreu and Safiro Furtado. A third man was wounded.

Prosecutors say Hernandez became agitated and told a friend that de Abreu had deliberately bumped him. Prosecutors say Hernandez later tracked down de Abreu and his friends and opened fire on their car from an SUV.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OHL

Knights sign on five new recruits

Five free agents have signed agreements with the London Knights.

Defenceman Brandon Crawley, centre Ryan Valentini, right winger Kelly Klima, centre Kevin Klima and goalie Tyler Parsons will report to training camp in August.

The 17-year-old Crawley, of Glen Rock, N.J., played in the United States Premier Hockey League. Valentini, 16, of Mississauga, spent his last season with the Greater Toronto league. Parsons, 16, from Chesterfield, Mich., played Detroit Honeybaked Ham Major Midget hockey. The Klimas, 16-year-old twins, are from Bloomfield Hills, Mich. METRO

Canadiens' Bourque reborn in playoffs

NHL playoffs. Montreal forward has 8 goals in playoffs after scoring only 9 in regular season

There was a running joke during the NHL regular season about how Rene Bourque would almost score, or almost complete a pass, or almost make a hit.

Not a lot went beyond the "almost" stage for Bourque as the former two-time 27-goal scorer with the Calgary Flames finished 13th in team scoring on the Montreal Canadiens with nine goals and seven assists in 63 games.

But in the playoffs, Bourque has arrived.

The left-winger's hat trick in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference final helped Montreal stave off elimination with a 7-4 victory over the Rangers and gave them new life heading into New York for another win-or-go-home matchup in Game 6 on Thursday night.

The Rangers lead the best-of-seven series 3-2 and must win at home to avoid a return to the hyper-loud and energized Bell Centre for Game 7 on Saturday night.

"At the end of the regular season, we saw Rene engaged in the game a lot more, moving his feet, being physical, going hard to the net," coach Michel Therrien said Wednesday. "He's doing a lot of good things."

"You can't expect a player to score three goals every night or even score every game. But even when he doesn't score, he's playing solid hockey. He's



The Canadiens' Rene Bourque celebrates with teammate P.K. Subban after scoring his third goal of the game against the New York Rangers in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference final Tuesday. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Suspended

The Rangers will be without defenceman John Moore for at least the remainder of the series. He was suspended for two games Wednesday after receiving a match penalty Tuesday night for a hit to Montreal forward Dale Weise's head.

getting involved physically. And last night, for me, it was leadership. It was a huge game for us. He came up big, and

that's good not only for him, but for us."

In 16 playoff games, Bourque has eight goals and three assists, and has become one of the team's most effective forwards in a duo that was put together near the end of the regular season with centre Lars Eller.

In the post-season, he's tied with Max Pacioretty for third in team scoring behind defenceman P.K. Subban with 14 points and Eller with 13. He leads the team in the Rangers series with four goals and two assists.

And he was tied for second

in NHL playoff goals with Jonathan Toews and Jeff Carter, behind Los Angeles King Marian Gaborik, who had 10.

"It was definitely a good game for me to step up and help the team," the 32-year-old Bourque said after his first career playoff hat trick.

Bourque's regular season was so bad he was made a healthy scratch for the first time in his career for five games in March, amid reports the Canadiens were trying to trade him and a contact worth \$3.3 million per year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spurs fighting to avoid another collapse vs. OKC



Spurs guard Manu Ginobili, left, talks with Tony Parker during Game 4 in Oklahoma City, Tuesday. The Spurs will look to avoid falling behind in the 2-2 series Thursday after losing a 2-0 lead. SUE OGROCKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The San Antonio Spurs have seen this nightmare before.

In 2012, the Spurs won the first two games of the Western Conference finals against the Thunder, then lost four straight and were bounced out of the playoffs. This season, the Spurs were cruising in the West finals, winning two blowouts against Oklahoma City before Thunder defensive wiz Serge Ibaka unexpectedly came back from a left-calf strain. With renewed confidence and energy, Oklahoma City's youngsters rolled past their veteran counterparts in Game 3, and

Repeating history

"We can't think about the past." Kevin Durant

the reminders started coming.

The Thunder dominated Game 4 to tie the series, and now, the Spurs again face an uncomfortable scenario. They host Game 5 on Thursday in danger of falling behind 3-2. If they lose, they'll travel to Oklahoma City on Saturday facing elimination. Just like in 2012.

"Reminding people about what happened in the past

helps in some way, but we have to go out there and execute and do things," Spurs forward Tim Duncan said.

The Thunder also have tried to distance themselves from their rare comeback, though they said it helped them remain hopeful when they were down 0-2.

"We can't think about the past.... We have to focus on right now," Thunder forward Kevin Durant said. "(San Antonio) is well-coached and has a great group of guys. They'll make it tough."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4
SPORTS

Canadians smashing French Open

Tennis. Raonic, Bouchard advance to third round of tournament

Milos Raonic bounced back from a troublesome first match and Eugenie Bouchard overcame a worrying first set as Canada's top singles tennis players drew on mental toughness to advance to the third round of the French Open.

Bouchard managed a 2-6, 6-2, 6-1 come-from-behind win over German Julia Goerges on Wednesday, while eighth-seeded Raonic beat Czech Jiri Vesely 7-6 (4), 6-4, 6-1 to reach the third round for a third consecutive year.

Quoted



"It was definitely more of a mental win today to get my game back in the right place."

Eugenie Bouchard, two-time French Open participant, on her victory after overcoming a weak start against Julia Goerges

Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., came back from a break down in the first set and won the hour-long opener in a tie-break before taking control of the match.

Raonic said he is noticing signs of improvement on court after struggling somewhat in his opening match, a 6-3, 7-6, 6-3 win over Australian qualifier Nick Kyrgios.

"I feel like I'm playing better today than I did three days ago, I think I dealt a little bit better with when I got things figured out as far as intensity," he said.

Bouchard struggled in the first set before rallying to join Raonic in the third round.

"I wasn't worried after the first, I just took my time," said Bouchard. "I just really tried to forget about that I lost the first set and just start fresh. That's what I did for the second and third."

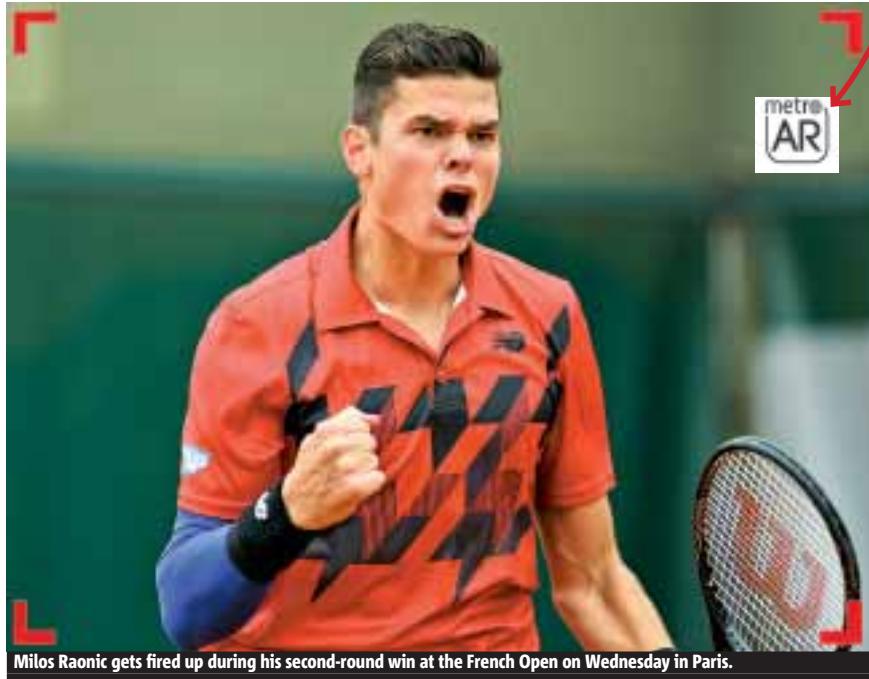
The 18th seed from Montreal will play Swede Johanna Larsson, who upset 12th-seeded Italian Flavia Pennetta 5-7, 6-4, 6-2.

Bouchard said she stayed mentally strong.

"I have confidence that no matter what happens on the court, I can fight and still give my best and give myself the best chance to win," she said.

Bouchard broke the 107th-ranked Goerges to end the match, taking the victory with 21 winners and conversions on six of 13 break points.

Bouchard broke twice in the second set and began the third with another break of the German as she raced to a 5-0 lead.



Milos Raonic gets fired up during his second-round win at the French Open on Wednesday in Paris.

MATTHIAS HANGST/GETTY IMAGES

But she lost serve in the next game after a forehand error.

She immediately recovered a game later, breaking Goerges

back and advancing on her first match point. THE CANADIAN PRESS

World Cup

Tips from 'smartest man alive' for World Cup victory

Stephen Hawking has turned his brilliant mind toward perhaps his toughest challenge yet — helping England win the World Cup.

Britain's most famous scientist, known for his theories on physics and the universe, has been commissioned by a betting company to analyze data from every World Cup England has qualified for since winning the tournament in 1966 in the hopes of coming up with a winning formula.

His conclusion: Roy

Hodgson's team has the best chance of winning in Brazil if it avoids high temperatures, adopts an aggressive 4-3-3 formation and wears red.

Hawking, who is known for his sense of humour, then said he found it more difficult to make sense of soccer than explain the mysteries of the universe.

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'07 Chev. Uplander	'06 GMC Sierra 271	'06 Dodge Gr. Caravan
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'05 Chev. Avalanche	'05 Chrys. PT Cruiser conv.	'05 Mts. Eclipse conv.
'05 Dodge Ram 1500	'04 VW Touareg AWD	'04 BMW 745i
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Quoted

"It was definitely more of a mental win today to get my game back in the right place."

Eugenie Bouchard, two-time French Open participant, on her victory after overcoming a weak start against Julia Goerges

metro
AR

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

If you lose interest in what you are doing today it's a sign you are doing the wrong thing. A change of scene will help but in the long-term you may have to change your lifetime ambitions.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

You need to show your vulnerable side. Too often you give the impression that nothing can bring you down when, in reality, you are as sensitive as everyone else.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You may be a bit touchy over the next 24 hours. With your ruler Mercury moving into sensitive Cancer if there is anything worrying you it is sure to show up. Don't try to avoid it.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Social activities are under excellent stars today and the best way relax is to seek out people who think and act is similar ways to you. Looking for love? Find it with someone who shares your cultural interests.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Your confidence will get a boost today and you will be a lot more relaxed about your social and professional status. One door may have closed to you but within a matter of days, another door will open.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Money may be important to you but it must not be allowed to come ahead of more important things such as love and laughter. Don't think about what you own and earn, think about what motivates you.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

If there has been a dispute, now is the time to patch things up. That applies to all areas of your life but especially to business issues. There's always a solution.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Your creative powers will be at their height over the next 24 hours, so make good use of them. Also, take your pleasures where you find them and don't listen to those who say you should be more cautious.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You may have tasks to complete but now is not the time to get busy on them. As Venus, planet of harmony, moves into the wellbeing area of your chart today your best course of action is to take life easy.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Something you found difficult before will come easier to you today. You may still have to struggle in other areas but the planets will generally give your spirits a lift and help you believe that most things are possible.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Sometimes you get so caught up in making a living that you forget there are people who love you so much they don't care what you achieve. One such person will delight you.

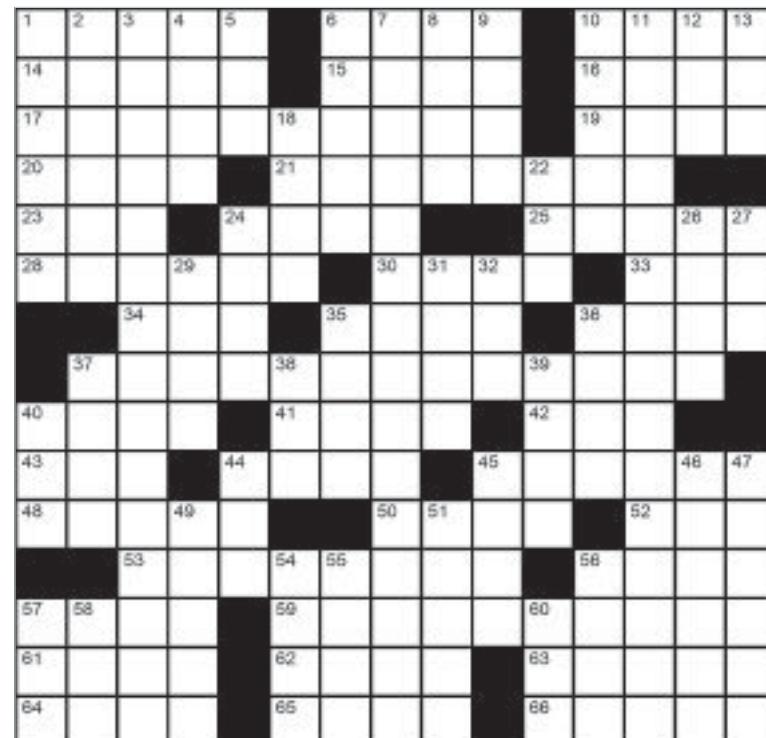
Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

Don't worry that others might think less of you if you ease off. Worry only that if you don't take better care of yourself you might come to harm. The planets urge you to take things at a slower pace. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



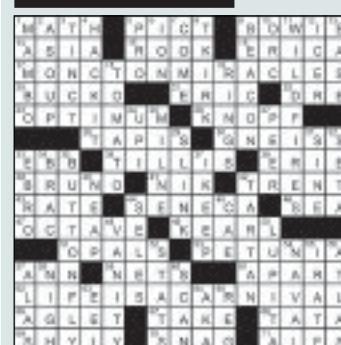
1. Jubilant, poetry-style
6. Cole Porter's "Miss ___ Regrets"
10. Lemony
14. Prepares potatoes
15. Stethoscope sound
16. Ms. Sanders
17. Canada's 'Big Five' gig: 2 wds.
19. Rob Roy, for one
20. Alberta town
21. Canadian cartoon series, "My ___ Is Evil"
23. Bond
24. Manage
25. DQ's 'D'
28. Feels
30. Dry: Spanish
33. ' ___ in Victoria
34. Spoil
35. "The Simpsons" bus driver
36. Slammer
37. Toronto-born singer/songwriter who has rocked with Legendary Hearts: 2 wds.
40. Funny lady Imogene
41. God: Latin
42. "Unbelievable" hitmakers
43. "Entourage" superagent
44. Espionage: Mata ___
45. Hurriedly depart again, say
48. Mountain chain
50. Dianetics guru, ___ Hubbard
52. Poetic preposition
53. Prepended the sewing needle

56. "Top ___ mornin' to you!"
57. Music's Ma
59. CTV series "Motive", for example: 2 wds.
61. "Lend me your ___ and I'll sing..." - The Beatles
62. Knee, medical-style

63. Try to unearth: 2 wds.
64. Proofreading term
65. Slumps
66. Heavens
Down
1. Friary figures
2. Net minder
3. St. Lawrence, Newfoundland born

journalist/writer: 2 wds.
Three Lives"
9. Feudal worker
10. "Battle of the Blades" champ Ms. Bonhomme
11. Some of the National Film Board's treasures: 2 wds.
12. Copacabana city
13. "Ka-boom!" stuff

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

1	2	4	6	5	8	3	7	2
8	3	2	1	7	9	8	5	4
8	7	5	4	3	2	6	9	1
3	1	7	2	8	5	4	8	6
4	5	8	7	1	6	2	3	9
9	2	6	3	8	4	7	1	5
7	4	9	5	2	3	1	6	8
5	6	3	8	4	1	9	2	7
2	8	1	9	6	7	5	4	3



		5	2
	3	8	4
5	1	9	6
3		4	8
6			5
7		9	2
2			8
7		3	6
8	2		1

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